Commissioned features Highlighting Mutual Cooperation between majority and Minority Communities

4073. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Commissioned features highlighting mutual cooperation between majority and minority communities during communal riots;

(b) the details of other special programmes focussing on promotion of communal harmony;

(c) whether more such programmes are going to be telecast/broadcast; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) A list of programmes commissioned by Doordarshan in the National level on communal harmony is enclosed as statement (see below). In addition, all Doordarshan Kendras telecast at least one programme on communal harmony on a fortnightly basis in the local dialect in addition to relaying the National Network programme on communal harmony. As regards All India Radio, no outside agency was commissioned for producing programmes on communal harmony. Most of the programmes are in-house production and 30 programmes on an average every month were broadcast from each station during the year 1996 to promote communal harmony and national integration.

(c) and (d) Promotion of communal harmony is a regular campaign theme of electronic media and programmes on this will continue to be telecast/broadcast over Doordarshan and All India Radio.

Setting up of a Newspapers Finance Corporation

4074. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Mnister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have requested to set up a Newspaper Finance Corporation for the benefit of Indian Language Newspapers to maintain freedom of press;

(b) if so, the details thereof with action taken thereon;

(c) whether setting up of a Newspaper Finance Corporation will benefit the readers in any way; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no intention on part of the Government to set up a Newspaper Finance Corporation for the Indian Language Newspapers.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Suggestion for improvement in the Zonal set up of AIR Stations and Doordarshan Centres

4075. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of zonal set up of All India Radio and Doordarshan stations including Low Power Transmissions in respect of manpower, finance and materials;

(b) whether Government have recently received some suggestions for improvement in this zonel set up;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and